



Albion



v Everton

Sunday 28th September 2025
Kick-off 12.00 noon



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DARIO VIDOSIC

Good afternoon everyone and a warm welcome to Everton head coach Brian Sorensen, his staff and players.

It's been a good week for us. We got our first WSL win of the season with a good performance against West Ham here at the Broadfield Stadium last Sunday and followed it up in midweek when a much-changed team opened our League Cup campaign with victory against Portsmouth.

We had to make a couple of changes against West Ham because of injuries to Madi Haley and Rachel McLauchlan, but it didn't affect the balance of the team or the way we wanted to play. We scored four well-taken goals and if we're being critical we should have scored a couple more. What was good to see was that the four we did get were shared around and we scored from a set piece, an area where we are always looking to improve our output. There are always areas to work on, as a team and individually, but to get that first win on the board will give us momentum to take into today's game.

It was always the plan to make changes for the cup game. It's a competition we want to do well in, but in a three-game week there always has to be an element of rotation. Portsmouth set up in a low block and were very compact, but we moved the ball well and once we'd got the two goals we were in control. Again, we should have scored more goals but our overall performance was pretty good.

I want to give opportunities to some of the under-19s who have impressed when they have trained with the senior squad and was able to do that. Similarly, Fuka got her first 90 minutes and Maelys came on and looked very solid in the second half. Once they are up to speed both players have qualities which can help us.

Looking at today, we have always had tight games against Everton and I don't imagine this one will be any different. Their 4-1 win over Liverpool on the opening day of the season was an eye-catching result and they have got the individual quality that can hurt us if we do not bring the best version of ourselves onto the pitch.

Finally, I'd once again like to thank our fans for their support, home and away. The atmosphere here last week was first-class and all of the girls remarked about it afterwards. Then on Wednesday it was great to see so many of our supporters - and their musical instruments - creating a good noise and getting behind the girls. Keep it going - it does make a difference.

Dario

"The atmosphere here last week was first-class and all of the girls remarked about it afterwards"

2025/26
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CLUB NEWS

Leicester game at the Amex

We're delighted to announce that our WSL fixture against Leicester City will be played at the Amex on Sunday 16 November, kick-off 12 noon

As part of our commitment to elevate our matchday experience, we've listened to fan feedback and seating will be in the West Stand, with a variety of ticketing options available to suit your needs which are detailed below. Tickets are now on sale.

	EARLY BIRD	STANDARD
Adult	£12	£15
U18s/65s+	£8	£10
U10	£6	£6
Family	£32	£32
Group	£8	£8

Tickets will change to standard pricing on Thursday 2 October at 10am.

MyAlbion+ Members, 1901 Members & men's season ticket holders can enjoy 20% off match tickets for this fixture:

	EARLY BIRD	STANDARD
Adult	£9.60	£12
U18s/65s+	£6.40	£8
U10	£4.80	£4/80

We have made WSL matchdays at the Amex even more accessible for families with a £1 ticket* for Under-18s. Please note offer only applies when purchasing in advance with a full paying adult ticket. Offer limited to one ticket per adult.

*T&Cs apply

Lounge Access

Elevate your matchday experience in style and upgrade your ticket to include access to our hospitality lounges.

In our lounges you will be able to purchase food and drink and catch all the action from the best seats in the Amex.

New catering options will be available, including hot dogs, burgers, nachos, lunch boxes and much more! Women's season ticket holders can upgrade their ticket for £10.

PRICING:

Adult £25; **U18/65+** £20; **U10** £16;

Family (2x adults & 2x U18) £56

Albion v Leicester at the Amex

Sun 16 Nov - 12pm KO*

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*Date and time subject to change.

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Albion action!

- 1 Carla Camacho is congratulated after scoring her first Albion goal in Wednesday's League Cup win over Portsmouth
- 2 Marisa Oslislagers scores for the second game in a row against Pompey
- 3 Maelys Mpome goes close on her Albion debut
- 4 Nadine Noordam looks to take the ball past the keeper
- 5 Eyes on the ball: Fran Kirby gets her pass away against West Ham United last weekend
- 6 Kiko Seike's fine strike makes it 2-0 against the Hammers
- 7 Celebrations after the final whistle
- 8 Kiko with her player of the match award after her sparkling performance

Pictures: Kyle Hemsley

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Strong pathway is key

Tahirah Heron wasn't the only Academy player who made their debut against Portsmouth in the midweek League Cup win.

Emilie Gay and Elliana Martin both started in the 2-0 win and Taylor Warren was an unused substitute. Evie Milner, Olivia Johnson and Mia Balmer have also got minutes off the bench for the first team.

Dario said, "Part of the growth of the club is the importance of a strong pathway from our Academy through the U19s and into the first team.

"The three girls who were involved at Portsmouth deserved their chance and now they have had a taste of it I'm sure they will work even harder, improving day to day, to make sure they give themselves the best chance of getting more game time. They have got some great role models in the team to learn from as well, which is important."



INTERVIEW

A DREAM COME TRUE FOR TAHIRAH

Olivia Jackson talks to 17-year-old midfielder Tahirah Heron, who made her first-team debut in last week's win over West Ham

Academy player Tahirah Heron made her senior debut in our 4-1 win against West Ham last Sunday and hopes it's the first of many appearances for the club.

Previously at Arsenal and Chelsea, the 17-year-old feels at home in Brighton and has not looked back since joining the club. The versatile winger is currently playing for the under-19s under the guidance of head coach Dani Bowman, a former Albion skipper.

"She (Dani Bowman) had been a captain so she's not only a coach and an ex-player, but she knows how to lead a team. She's played football as well and at a high level, so she understands us a lot," Tahirah said.

The youngster trained with the senior team in pre-season and has been determined since then to be more involved in Dario Vidossic's squad going forward.

"The intensity is way different and the ball speed as well, everything's quicker. I'd say I'm starting to adapt to it a lot more, but it's very different to playing with the 19s."

Sitting on the bench against West Ham, watching Albion's impressive performance in our 4-1 win, Dario told Tahirah that she was about to make her senior debut late in the second half.

"When he called me to come on, I was just so excited and then I had to wait four minutes because the ball didn't go out of play for ages! So my nerves were starting to build up but in a positive way.

"Then when they made the announcement and they put up the numbers on the subs' board, I was ready to get on the pitch and play. I was excited because I've been on the bench three times before and I wasn't

"They say, 'don't change how you play and don't be nervous. Just play how you would normally'"

nervous at all. I really enjoyed the whole experience."

Tahirah's family were in attendance when she made it onto the pitch for the first time at the Broadfield Stadium, making the moment even more special.

"My grandad stopped working one day a week to come to all my games so now he can come to see me play. He makes sure he's at every game, even Liverpool away! My mum wanted to cry, and my sister had like the biggest smile on her face when I came on as well. It was nice that they were all pleased."

Tahirah says playing with the likes of Fran Kirby, Maisie Symonds and Michelle Agyemang was a huge honour and she is hoping to follow in their successful footsteps.

"It's just a great experience to share the pitch with them. Fran and Maisie (Symonds) talk to the younger girls a lot about football. I do look up to the senior squad a lot.

"A lot of players tell us just to be ourselves, especially when we get given chances to prove ourselves. They say, 'don't change how you play and don't be nervous. Just play how you would normally and express yourself on a pitch.'"

Tahirah now has two games for the senior team under her belt, after making her first start in Albion's 2-0 win in the League Cup over Portsmouth on Wednesday. Her impressive performance on the right wing resulted in her being nominated for the Player of the Match award. Like all of our young players, she is desperate for further opportunities.

But every footballing journey starts with a debut and Tahirah has already ticked off that milestone this season.



Positive thinking

After a solid second half to last season, Everton will be looking to make further strides as the new campaign gets into full swing...

Following the acquisition of the club by The Friedkin Group last December, the Toffees moved in the winter transfer window to sign Kelly Gago (Nantes), Hayley Ladd (Manchester United) and Maren Mjelde (Arna-Bjørnar). Martina Fernandez (Barcelona), Emma Watson (Manchester United) and Louna Ribadeira (Chelsea) were also brought in on loan and the side enjoyed a much-improved second half of the 2024/25 WSL season, finishing a comfortable 14 points clear of the drop zone in eighth place.

Allied to the news that the team would be playing their home games at Goodison Park moving forward, the feel-good factor continued into the summer with the arrival of three Japan internationals – forward Yuka Momiki, full-back Hikaru Kitagawa and centre-back Rion Ishikawa. Fernandez signed

a permanent deal and has been joined by Rosa van Gool (Ajax), Ornella Vignola (Granada), Maz Pacheco (Aston Villa) and Ruby Mace (Leicester City). Former Seagull Katie Robinson has also arrived from Villa on loan until the end of the season.

"I'm very happy with the backing that we have had, although we've not spent a crazy amount of money," reflected coach Brian Sorensen. "When I came in three years ago, it was also a big turnover and we have now lowered the squad age and got in some players that are of high class.

"It's nice as a coach now, as I actually have a headache in team selections because of the quality we have. We are in a better situation than we have been in recent years, and although there is still work to do, we are ready."

The new-look Toffees certainly looked ready for

the campaign judging by their performance on the opening day of the season – an emphatic 4-1 derby victory against Liverpool at Anfield.

A hat-trick from debutant Vignola and a Katja Snoeij's header made headlines around the division but not necessarily from Sorensen. "We started off the season how we wanted to," he said. "But it's probably good that we played Liverpool because we always get the first win against them!"

Yet such is the competitive nature of the WSL, Everton have not found life so easy as they settle into their new Goodison Park surrounds. They opened there with a 2-0 defeat to Tottenham Hotspur on 14 September, while last Friday London City Lionesses came away from Merseyside with a 2-1 victory.

Defeat to the league's newcomers left the Toffees

sitting seventh in the table – a point behind the Seagulls – but Sorensen felt his side deserved more from the game.

"We created enough to at least get a point. I didn't feel the girls deserved this at all," he said. "We want to be a bit more conservative, a bit more pragmatic, but it's the little margins that need to fall our side – we need to be super-sharp at both ends of the pitch."

The Toffees were also beaten 3-1 at Manchester City in the Women's League Cup on Wednesday but Sorensen added that the side is a work in progress.

"We have nine new signings; we had to do that to make the new era and the team much younger, so we know that will take a little bit of time to click 100 per cent. This is a very hard league and you need to have that time to gel as a team."

ONE TO WATCH

Ornella Vignola

Born in Montevideo, Uruguay, Ornella moved to Spain at the age of one and began her journey with local side Malaga B.

In 2020 she joined Barcelona and although making the majority of her appearances in the B team, she did play twice for the senior side.

Spells at Sevilla, Alaves and Granada followed – and she made 57 league appearances and scored six goals for the latter.

A Spain U23 international, Vignola made the move to Goodison Park in July and her spectacular debut against Liverpool made her the first Everton player, male or female, to score a hat-trick against the Reds since the legendary Dixie Dean in 1931.

"I was happy to have started the season that way, especially against Liverpool," said the forward after the game. "It was really exciting, and it made it even better that it was a derby hat-trick. I'm excited for the season ahead."



PREVIOUS MEETING

Everton 2 Albion 3

Sunday 27 April, 2025

Former Everton forward Nikita Parris netted a dramatic stoppage-time winner to seal an impressive victory for the Seagulls when the teams last met towards the end of last season.

Albion had been on a three-match losing streak prior to the game at Walton Hall Park, while the Toffees were looking for a second successive home win.

The game looked to be going to form when Everton scored a back-post volley through Sara Holmgaard, only for Michelle Agyemang to net a close-range 21st-minute equaliser.

The hosts regained the lead two minutes later through a Katja Snoeij's volley before Fran Kirby netted a superb effort of her own, curling home with the outside of her foot before half-time.

Albion had good penalty shouts in the second half after both Parris and Agyemang were bundled over in the box, but they finally got their reward in the third minute of added time when Parris raced clear before firing past keeper Courtney Brosnan.

The win secured Albion's first-ever league double over the Toffees and boss Dario Vidolic was delighted at the final whistle.

"We got what we deserved," he said. "I thought that in the second half we controlled the game and created lots of chances. We fought hard, we had to show character being down twice, and it was a terrific goal to win the game."





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DATE OPPOSITION RES/KO POS ATT REFEREE

SEPTEMBER

7	Aston Villa	D0-0	6	2,219	R.Atkin
12	Manchester City	L1-2	8	3,316	A.Soneye
21	West Ham United	W4-1	6	1,810	G.Lowe
24	Portsmouth (LC)	W2-0	-	-	L. Benn
28	Everton	12.00noon			

OCTOBER

5	Tottenham Hotspur	11.55am
8	West Ham United (LC)	7.00pm
12	Arsenal	2.30pm
19	Southampton (LC)	2.00pm

NOVEMBER

2	Manchester United	2.00pm
9	Liverpool	2.00pm
12	Charlton Athletic (LC)	7.00pm
16	Leicester City	12.00noon

DECEMBER

7	London City Lionesses	2.00pm
14	Chelsea	2.00pm

JANUARY

11	Aston Villa	2.00pm
18	FAC4	
25	Everton	2.00pm

FEBRUARY

1	London City Lionesses	2.00pm
8	West Ham United	12.00noon
15	Arsenal	2.00pm

MARCH

15	Chelsea	2.00pm
22	Liverpool	2.00pm
29	Leicester City	3.00pm

APRIL

26	Chelsea	2.00pm
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MAY

3	Manchester United	2.00pm
17	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00pm

STARTING XI



SUBSTITUTES



WSL latest table 2025/26

		P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Chelsea	3	3	0	0	6	2	+4	9
2	Manchester United	3	2	1	0	9	1	+8	7
3	Arsenal	3	2	1	0	9	2	+7	7
4	Manchester City	3	2	0	1	8	4	+4	6
5	Tottenham Hotspur	3	2	0	1	4	5	-1	6
6	Brighton & Hove Albion	3	1	1	1	5	3	+2	4
7	Everton	3	1	0	2	5	5	0	3
8	Leicester City	3	1	0	2	1	5	-4	3
9	London City Lionesses	3	1	0	2	4	10	-6	3
10	Aston Villa	2	0	1	1	1	3	-2	1
11	Liverpool	2	0	0	2	1	5	-4	0
12	West Ham United	3	0	0	3	2	10	-8	0

Today's other fixtures

Leicester City v Tottenham Hotspur
Liverpool v Manchester United
Manchester City v London City Lionesses
West Ham United v Chelsea

Albion statistics 2025/26

Name	Apps	PL		LC		FAC		BHAFC	
		Gls	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls	Apps
1 Chiamaka Nnadozie	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
2 Manuela Vanegas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 Moeka Minami	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
5 Maelys Mpome	-	-	0+1	-	-	-	-	0+1	-
6 Rosa Kafaji	1+1	1	0+1	-	-	-	-	2+1	1
7 Aisha Masaka	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0+2	-
8 Maisie Symonds	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	34+43	2
9 Michelle Agyemang	3	-	0+1	-	-	-	-	12+16	5
10 Jelena Cankovic	3	-	0+1	-	-	-	-	16+7	3
11 Kiko Seike	2+1	1	0+1	-	-	-	-	16+9	6
14 Fran Kirby	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	19+2	9
15 Nadine Noordam	0+3	-	1	-	-	-	-	10+3	-
16 Jorelyn Carabali	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	28+10	1
17 Bex Rayner	1+1	-	1	-	-	-	-	4+4	-
18 Caitlin Hayes	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3+3	-
19 Marisa Olislagers	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	24+5	2
21 Madison Haley	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	25+14	2
22 Carla Camacho	0+3	-	1	1	-	-	-	0+2	-
23 Marit Auee	0+2	-	1	-	-	-	-	2+1	-
25 Hannah Poulter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27 Rachel McLauchlan	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	11+6	2
28 Melina Loeck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-
29 Fuka Tsunoda	0+1	-	1	-	-	-	-	0+1	-
32 Sophie Baggaley	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	36	-
33 Charlie Rule	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	8+9	2
Emilie Gay	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
48 Tahirah Heron	0+1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1+1	-
Elliana Martin	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
- Evie Milner	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0+1	-
- Mia Balmer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0+1	-
- Olivia Johnson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0+2	-

Today's mascots

Libby McNulty

Score prediction: 2-0

Favourite player:

Fran Kirby



Toby Northcott

Score prediction: 4-1

Favourite player:

Sophie Baggaley



Sophie Northcott

Score prediction: 2-1

Favourite player:

Michelle Agyemang



Finlay Wallington

Score prediction: 2-1

Favourite player:

Chiamaka Nnadozie



Haleigh Grace Smith

Score prediction: 3-0

Favourite player:

Caitlin Hayes



Ethan Silvester

Score prediction: 2-1

Favourite player:

Michelle Agyemang



Nia Saint

Score prediction: 2-1

Favourite player:

Fran Kirby



Ted Woolgar

Score prediction: 2-0

Favourite player:

Michelle Agyemang





Albion

1 Chiamaka **Nnadozie**
2 Manuela **Vanegas**
3 Moeka **Minami**
5 Maelys **Mpome**
6 Rosa **Kafaji**
7 Aisha **Masaka**
8 Maisie **Symonds**
9 Michelle **Agyemang**
10 Jelena **Cankovic**
11 Kiko **Seike**
14 Fran **Kirby**
15 Nadine **Noordam**
16 Jorelyn **Carabali**
17 Bex **Rayner**
18 Caitlin **Hayes**
19 Marisa **Olislagers**
21 Madison **Haley**
22 Carla **Camacho**
23 Marit **Auee**
25 Hannah **Poulter**
27 Rachel **McLauchlan**
29 Fuka **Tsunoda**
32 Sophie **Baggaley**
33 Charlie **Rule**
64 Emilie **Gay**



Everton

1 Courtney **Brosnan**
3 Rion **Ishikawa**
5 Martina **Fernandez**
6 Honoka **Hayashi**
7 Clare **Wheeler**
8 Rosa **van Gool**
9 Toni **Payne**
11 Kelly **Gago**
12 Emily **Ramsey**
13 Hikaru **Kitagawa**
16 Hayley **Ladd**
17 Lucy **Hope**
18 Ornella **Vignola**
19 Katie **Robinson**
20 Megan **Finnigan**
22 Aurora **Galli**
24 Kenzie **Weir**
25 Katja **Snoeijs**
27 Elise **Stenevik**
28 Karen **Holmggaard**
29 Yuka **Momiki**
30 Ruby **Mace**
32 Macy **Settle**
33 Maz **Pacheco**
34 Ellie **Jones**

Match officials

Referee: Stacey Pearson
Assistant Referees:
Harley Hetherington & David Middleton
Fourth Official: Levi Gray

Next at home



Southampton
League Cup
Sunday 19 October
Kick-off 2pm

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